

9 February 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, National Security Council
Intelligence Committee

SUBJECT: Progress Report on NSCIC Working
Group

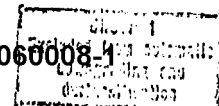
1. The NSCIC Working Group has held two meetings, an organizational session on 13 December and one on 4 February to discuss a work program to support the NSCIC mission. Staff support for the Working Group will be provided by the Product Review Group, which has been established by the Director of Central Intelligence in response to the charge in the President's memorandum of 5 November 1971 that the DCI prepare "a comprehensive program focused upon improving the intelligence process and product."

2. The Working Group is examining the NSCIC problem in terms of three types of projects:

a. Those focused on consumer needs, to insure the adequacy of guidance to the Intelligence Community and of communications between consumers and intelligence producers.

b. Those involving product evaluation by consumer representatives.

c. Those addressing production improvement, and dealing with an examination of the resources being used, the analyst situation and research and development requirements. Much of the effort in this field will be handled by the PRG in direct support of the DCI.



3. The Working Group goal is accomplishment of a series of studies which, hopefully, will assist the NSCIC in formulation of direction and guidance on national substantive intelligence needs. The Working Group recognizes that personnel limitations will restrict the number of studies which can be undertaken at any one time, and much work remains to be done on the design and scheduling of individual studies. It is expected the study efforts will be conducted primarily by task groups, headed either by Mr. Marshall of your staff or a representative of the DCI.

4. On the basis of its 4 February discussions, the Working Group requests NSCIC approval of the following two product evaluation projects:

a. India/Pakistan. This will be entitled, "A Case Study of U. S. Intelligence Reaction to a Political-Military Crisis: The India/Pakistan Conflict of 1971." This is intended as the first of a series of case studies of recent crisis situations, in each of which the Working Group will be looking for "lessons learned" which might provide basis for guidance applicable to future crisis situations. Mr. Marshall has action responsibility.

b. Intelligence Inputs to NSSMs. This will be a product evaluation study of the intelligence response to a selected group of NSSMs. As in the case of the India/Pakistan study, emphasis will be on "lessons learned" which can be used to improve future NSSM submissions. Mr. Marshall has action responsibility.

5. The Working Group also has approved the following two study projects, each of which will be essentially descriptive in nature and intended to provide a basis for Working Group consideration of proposals or recommendations for submission to the NSCIC.

a. Narcotics traffic. This study will examine the intelligence and intelligence-related activities responding to U. S. Government needs in this field. The adequacy of existing statements of needs will be reviewed, along with an assessment of how intelligence is responding, the agencies and mechanisms involved, and the capabilities which have been or are being created. This study was requested by Mr. Robert C. Mardian, Assistant Attorney General, Internal Security Division. The Working Group Chairman has action responsibility.

b. Economic Intelligence. This study will describe the manner in which intelligence is responding to U. S. Government needs for intelligence on international economic, financial and commercial developments. The Working Group request for such a study arose from a discussion of important ways in which the need for certain types of intelligence may change markedly within the near-to mid-term future. Dr. Edward W. Proctor of CIA has action responsibility.

6. The Working Group still has considerable work to do in developing its program for eliciting consumer responses to intelligence products. At the 4 February meeting, the Working Group members were generally opposed to projects involving the use of questionnaires in view of the usually unsatisfactory experience with past efforts to assess responsiveness of intelligence products to consumer needs by means of questionnaire surveys, but this is a matter deserving of more consideration.

7. Any guidance the NSCIC might provide as to specific areas of interest on which it considers the Working Group could most profitably focus attention would be appreciated.

(Signed) Bronson Tweedy

Bronson Tweedy
Chairman, NSCIC Working Group

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